

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A composite multilayer material, in particular for plain bearings or bushings, having a backing layer, a bearing metal layer of a copper alloy or an aluminum alloy, a nickel intermediate layer and an overlay, wherein the overlay ~~comprises~~ consists of about 0 - 20 wt.% copper and[[/or]] about 0 - 20 wt% silver, the combined maximum wt% of copper and silver being about 20 wt%, the rest being tin, and the layer thickness of the nickel layer being greater than 4 μm .
2. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The composite multilayer material as claimed in claim 1, wherein the overlay comprises at least 0.5 - 20 wt.% copper and/or silver.
3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The composite multilayer material as claimed in claim 1, wherein the overlay ~~comprises~~ consists of about 2 - 8 wt.% copper and/or silver, the rest being tin.
4. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The composite multilayer material as claimed in claim 1, wherein the layer thickness of the overlay is about 5 - 25 μm .
5. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The composite multilayer material as claimed in claim 1, wherein the layer thickness of the overlay is about 6 - 14 μm .
6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The composite multilayer material as claimed in claim 1, wherein the layer thickness of the nickel layer is about [[4 -]] 6 μm - 8 μm .
7. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The composite multilayer material as claimed in claim 1, wherein the bearing metal layer comprises at least one of copper-aluminum, copper-tin, copper-tin-lead, copper-zinc, copper-zinc-silicon, copper-zinc-aluminum, aluminum-zinc or copper-aluminum-iron alloy.

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8. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The composite multilayer material as claimed in claim 1, which has undergone an aging process and comprises an interdiffusion layer of substantially tin and nickel between the nickel intermediate layer and the overlay.

Claims 9 and 10 (CANCELLED)